

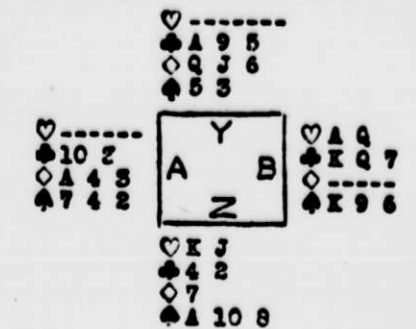
PROBLEMS FOR SUN READERS TO SOLVE

Bridge Deal in Which the Winner Has to Force Three Discards.

FOR THE BOOKKEEPERS

Checker Game Endings—Amateur Carpenters Failed to Remodel That Door.

Bridge problem No. 178, by a new composer, George R. Hann of New Haven, is original in the number of discards that it forces from the adversaries. As a rule, one discard is fatal, but in this case B has to make three discards before he is clubbed into submission. Here is the distribution:



There are no trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want six tricks against any defense. There are three principal variations to the solution, the favorite among the solvers being that in which A takes the lead at the first opportunity.

There is only one sound opening for Z, the seven of diamonds. If A puts on the ace at once, Y plays small, and B's best discard seems to be the queen of hearts. A now leads a small club, so as to set up that suit in his partner's hand, and Y takes the trick with the ace.

Y's next move is to force two more discards from B, by leading the queen and jack of diamonds. As A still has the ten of clubs, B can afford to discard the king and queen without leaving that suit defenseless. Z also discards a club and the jack of hearts.

Now Y leads a club, giving A another trick, upon which B is forced to discard a spade. Z dropping the king of hearts, which is now useless, should he let go the best heart and keep the spades. Z will keep the king of hearts and let go a spade. Whatever A leads, he kills his partner by leading through the spade tenace up to Z, thus allowing Z to make the remaining three tricks.

Many solvers thought it prettier for A to pass the first diamond trick, which Y wins with the jack, returning the six at once. B's best discard on the first trick is the heart queen, and on the next the club seven. If A does not win the second round of diamonds he will take his home with him, but if he does win it he brings about the same end, as when he won the first round. Z discards on the return of the diamond is the small club.

A refusing to win the second diamond, Y leads a spade and Z will just top whatever B plays. As B still has the ace of hearts, having discarded the queen, Z puts him in with a heart, so as to establish a trick in that suit for himself. Y discarding the third diamond, B will naturally lead the club, which Y will win with the ace, leading the spade through again, giving Z two more tricks in that suit and one in hearts.

This is the only variation in which Z makes a heart trick when A ducks two diamonds, unless A and B play badly. But B may vary his discard so as to prevent the heart play, keeping his heart tenace and letting go a club on the first trick when A refuses to put up the ace of diamonds. The spade lead comes back through B just the same after the second diamond, B having discarded two clubs, instead of a heart and a club, but Z returns a club instead of leading a heart up to B, and Y gets in with the ace of clubs. B leads a spade through again. After Z has made two more tricks in spades with his major tenace, he gives B two heart tricks, and the ace of diamonds discards.

There are a number of minor variations open to A and B, but they do not affect the result, because it is impossible for them to avoid three leads of diamonds, unless they pass the first two rounds. It is this suit that forces the numerous discards from B that solve the problem. On the straight play Y and Z make two diamonds, ace of clubs and three spades. If they lose a spade they make a heart.

Correct solutions from:

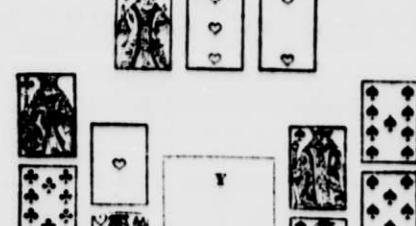
Pauline Newbold, George B. Glover, H. E. W. B. G. Braine, Charles M. Root, B. Arnold, J. W. Miller, W. P. Bulkeley, A. J. Schmitt, J. W. Cromwell, Dr. H. H. Riker, D. Shinn, H. C. Hill, Jay Reed, William H. Haynes, Walker McMartin, James Steen, James Hunter, A. L. Strassburger, Burton D. Blair, W. P. Bulkeley, C. Isbell, Frank Roy, D. A. Frost, Dr. Roscoe C. Harris, E. M. Frost, Keystone, O. H. Boston, R. C. Hill, Sidney C. Neff, C. Johnson, Henry Anderson, H. C. Root, Merrimack and Robin Damon.

There were no late answers to No. 178, every solution being in the office of THE SUN on time.

Here is a position that looks like a break, but it contains an instructive lesson for the student of tactics:

BRIDGE PROBLEM NO. 181.

By Capt. Frank Roy.



As his excuse is \$15,000, if he paid \$30,000 and received \$45,000, or if he paid \$70,000 and received \$105,000, would the results be the same, and if not why not?

A large number of solutions have been sent in for the pat poker hands, but so far not one is correct. The five pat hands must be made from twenty-five cards, picked out of a specified thirty-four. It should be stated that in this game, sometimes called twenty-five card poker, a pat hand is one in which every card counts, so that for a kind is not pat, as one may discard and draw to such a hand. A player who stands pat does not draw any cards.

Prisoners Seated at Small Tables.

From the Atlanta Constitution.

Preparations have been completed at the Federal penitentiary for seating the prisoners at small tables in the dining room instead of sitting all the 800 men together at long low benches.

The new method of seating the prisoners for their meals is one of a number of improvements which the warden has made in the prison system in the past few years. It involves the seating of the dining room floor and the manufacturing of 104 small, neat tables for the men.

Each table will seat eight men, and under the new arrangement white and colored prisoners will be separated.

Formerly the men were seated in rows on benches at long, desk-like tables, and there was no discrimination as to color.

of the number of opening moves that would win for white. Beginners in problem composition should remember that there should never be more than one key move, and that any other opening move would result in the defeat of the intended solution. After the first move there may be as many variations as one chooses to work in.

The distribution was: Black men on 12 and 20, kings on 10 and 26. White men on 18, 24, 25, kings on 14 and 18. White to play and win. Here are the moves that solve:

White: ♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♣ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
Black: ♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♣ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2, ♥ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

But there are four other opening moves for white that will solve: He may play 18-22, and to black's 20-22, 22-24 wins. He may play 17-22, black 26-17, 18-15 wins. Another one is: 17-13, 20-27, 13-15, 26-23, 10-19, and white wins. Still another is: 18-15, 20-27, 13-13, and white wins, all of which are shorter than the original solution.

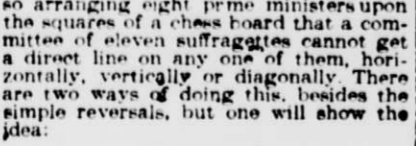
The only person to find all these variations was H. D. Lyman, but correct solutions of one or more variations have been received from:

James Steen, H. D. Lyman, D. A. W. Bulkeley, M. Root, J. W. Miller, A. J. O'Reilly, W. A. Bulkeley, P. J. McGarry, George B. Hann, C. M. Root, W. L. Bartlett, Country Nutmegger, H. Atlas, A. W. Putnam, L. V. Johnson, George W. Bruce, Vena Holub, E. H. Decker and O. H. Boston.

Here is a problem in which there is only one key move that will solve; the trouble is to find that move, because there are others that look promising.

PROBLEM NO. 181, CHECKERS.

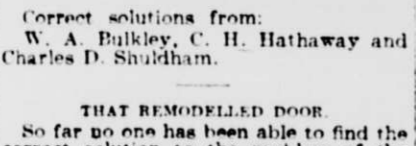
By H. D. Lyman.



White to play and win.

THE SOLUTION.

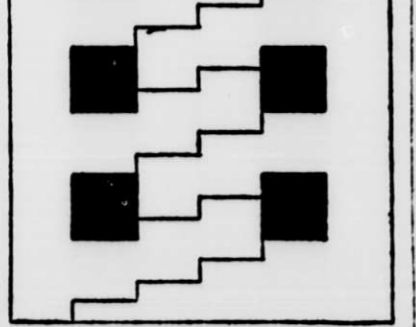
Here is the solution to the problem of so arranging eight prime ministers upon the squares of a chess board that a committee of eleven suffragettes cannot get a direct line on any one of them, horizontally, vertically or diagonally. There are two ways of doing this, besides the simple reversal, but one will show the idea.



Correct solutions from:

W. A. Bulkeley, C. H. Hathaway and Charles D. Shuldham.

So far no one has been able to find the correct solution to the problem of the dissected door, probably because they did not pay sufficient attention to the fact that the panels were of an exact size. Here is the way the carpenter did it:



The mistake that was made by all who attempted the solution of this problem was in making only one step, as shown: the two parts, instead of several, as shown:

SOMETHING FOR BOOKKEEPERS.

It is some time since a problem has been presented for the bookkeepers, who have the distinction of forming the only profession that could never solve any of the problems given for their benefit in this column. Some of them are still wrangling over the accounts of the liquor agent of the good town of Soakum. Perhaps they will have better luck with this one.

A man leased a building for one year and immediately sublet for \$15,000 more than he paid for it. He took out a fire insurance policy for \$15,000 to cover the profits of his lease.

Assuming that all the floors of the building brought the same rent, what would he be entitled to collect under this policy if one-half of the building should be damaged by fire, and the results be the same, and if not why not?

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Formerly the men were seated in rows on benches at long, desk-like tables, and there was no discrimination as to color.

Believing that the new system would promote more largely to the individual prisoners' self respect, and aid in establishing a new, pleasant and old-fashioned, the warden succeeded in providing the small tables.

WHERE RULES FAIL AT ROYAL AUCTION

Skill and Finesse in Bidding Tell in the Final Score.

DECLARATIONS IN DARK

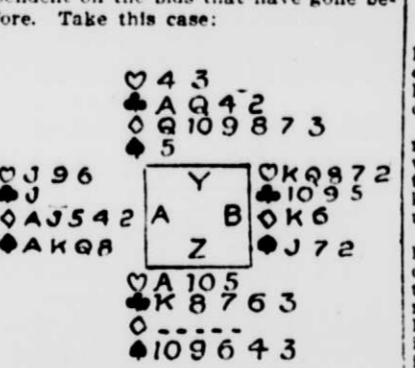
Inferences Which Should Guide Players in Making Their Bids.

One frequently hears a discussion of the play of certain hands at bridge in which the score is not stated and the motive is therefore left uncertain. In the same way one may often hear an argument about the propriety of a certain bid or bids at auction without an allusion to the other bids, which must or should have had a large influence on the bid under discussion.

It is very difficult to lay down any rules for the bids beyond those of the dealer and his partner on the first round, with an occasional remark about the second player. After that everything depends on what has been declared by others, because that is what will show whether any particular bid is judicious or not.

The difference between a partner's support and his shift is enough to change the whole aspect of a declaration, and the interference of an adversary may affect a bid in one of two ways—it may show that he is afraid of it or it may indicate that he can afford to ignore it and proceed with his own game.

In many cases one player may try to manage things for the best interest of the two hands, when his partner steps in and spoils it all, although with the best intentions in the world. In such situations there is always the opportunity for the display of skill and finesse in the bidding, such as no rules can cover, everything in the bids being dependent on the bids that have gone before. Take this case:



Z dealt and bid a spade, which A doubled, showing two stoppers in the suit. Y pulled his partner out with two diamonds and A saw that times were in excellent shape for him to win some penalties, as he has told his partner that his good suit is spades and if that suit is led at once they can probably force Y often enough to break up his hand.

But B does not know anything about A's plans and declares a heart on the strength of his partner's stoppers in spades and the position of his own king of diamonds over Y. Z passed, as he cannot support his partner and is afraid to shift in the face of the suit declarations on each side.

B's bid induced A to try to drive Y back to the diamonds, so he went no trumps, hoping Y would bid two diamonds, but Y refused to be coaxed, his partner not having shown any signs of life, and B also passed.

When it got around to Z that player knew that A must have the diamonds safely stopped and he had already shown that he could stop the spades. B, on the other hand, had declared hearts, which looked to Z as if these were the three suits on which the no trump was built. If this inference was correct the only chance left for Y and Z was the clubs, and Z bid two tricks in that suit, which A promptly passed, showing that he had no stoppers there, and had to abandon his no trump.

B went two hearts, showing he could do nothing to stop the clubs either, and Z passed. When he got around to Y he supported his partner with three clubs and that was the winning declaration doubled by A, who did not see how it was possible for Y and Z to make nine tricks against A's cards with B's hearts to help him.

Here is an example of three players for whose bids no rule could be laid down, each bidding on two different suits and one of them making three different declarations. Z bid a spade first and then a club. B, a doubled spade first and then shifted to no trumps and finally doubled a club. Y bid a diamond first and then shifted to the club suit.

Not one of these bids except the first one by Y is based on the player's own cards, but all of them rest on the information and influence of the bids made by the others. The dealer's original call is nothing but a pass, as he does not want spades for trumps at a two trick.

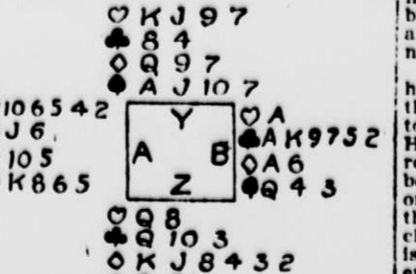
On the play A led the spade to have a look before starting his partner's heart suit. On the next trick he led the heart and Z got in. After that A and B were helpless until the contract was safe, as Y and Z never let go of the cross ruff.

Upon winning the heart trick with the ace Z led a spade and dummy trumped it, returning the small diamond, which Z trumped. Another spade from Z and dummy got another ruff, after which he led another diamond for Z to trump, and on the fourth round he discarded the queen of trumps shut out B, who discarded a heart. On the next diamond lead from dummy B put in the nine of trumps, although he knew his partner had the ace of the suit led, and Z overtrumped and led the spade.

The next diamond from dummy B won with the ten of trumps. Z discarding a heart, then B led a small trump, which A won, returning a heart, and Z made the eight of trumps at the end, giving him three by cards and his contract.

As a rule the fourth player is in the best position at the table to declare, because he gets a line on the situation from the bids of the preceding players. Nothing will show more clearly how much a player's fourth player can be than to have a hand come along in which no one has anything to say until

it comes around to him. Here is a case of this kind:



Z dealt and bid a spade, as he was not one of those who bid on length alone. A passed, and Y did not see his way to declare anything with the prospect of a weak dummy, so he passed.

Now B finds himself in about the same position as if he had dealt the cards, and he can declare either clubs or no trumps. As he has no necessary mean weakness and may be nothing but a waiting move, whereas the declarations of Y and Z are clearly from weakness, B concluded to call the no trump instead of the club.

Y having refused to take Z out of the spade call, Z refused to risk a diamond contract for two tricks and passed. A did not see any reason to shift and Y was glad to be out of it, so B got the declaration, and, as is often the case when bids are made in the dark in this way, he got set for fifty points.

Z opened his long diamond suit, and B tried to drop the queen of clubs in two leads. Failing in this there was nothing for it but to go on and hope the diamonds were not all in one hand. Y dropped the seven of spades as a reverse discard, wishing his partner to know what to do when the diamond ran out. This kept B from discarding the spade queen, and forced him to let go a club, but the spade ace set the contract.

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a view to that and B bids two royals, he cannot go game in hearts with a bust on the table, nor in clubs with all the spades led. The first lead neither can B go game in spades.

A fully expected Y to return to the heart suit, as Z did not go on with the no trump, so he bid three clubs to show B what to lead, but Y passed. Here is a case of each player in turn refusing to support his partner and both abandoning his own declaration on the second round. This shows that Z holds the spade ace and the club ace and that his extra strength is in diamonds, but that he has not enough of them to declare that suit. A must either have in spades or he would support B instead of switching.

What most persons would have done on the strength of these inferences is a question, but B went two no trumps in spite of Z's original declaration and what is more he made it and won the game on the hand into the bargain.

Z led the heart ten, which B won with the ace, leading the club nine. Z passed it and so did dummy. Another club and Z passed again as he knew that cleaned up B, and he held tenace on a heart came back with a small diamond and Z finished the nine as the game hinged on the position of the ten. Z won with the king and led another heart, which B won with the king, leading the queen of diamonds and putting Z in again.

When Z tried to get a club lead by returning the diamond, giving A two tricks, A avoided the trap by leading a spade after B had discarded his small heart and then Z saw that unless he made his ace of clubs at once he would take it home with him, as a spade lead would give B every trick.

HISTORIC OLD HOUSE.

Gen. Knox's Headquarters at Vail Gate Near Newburgh.

One of the most interesting old houses that time has spared us from the days of our Revolutionary fathers is the Gen. Knox Headquarters House, situated near the village of Vail Gate, some five miles southwest of Newburgh, N.Y. The house was built about the year 1734 by John Ellison and was still the property of the Ellisons at the time of the Revolution.

Washington and his army were in camp near there for many months during the last years of the war, and as a consequence this house was made the military headquarters at different times of three of his Generals—Greene, Gates and Knox. Gen. Knox occupied the house for a longer period than did either of the other two Generals, and therefore it is to-day known as the Gen. Knox Headquarters House.

Gen. Knox was Washington's chief of artillery during the war, says St. Nicholas, and one of his favorite officers; consequently, while he made his headquarters there, Washington was a frequent visitor at the house, along with Lafayette, Rochambeau and others who helped to make the history of our country.

For many years this old house possessed a unique and most interesting memento of Revolutionary days—a pane of glass in one of its windows on which a French officer had scratched, with the diamond of his ring, the names of three belles of that day; but unfortunately this pane of glass was removed from the house by a former owner so that this curious and interesting souvenir of the past cannot now be seen in its proper setting.

Benson John Loring, the historian, tells of visiting this old house in 1848 and of finding the pane of glass still in the window, with the three names scratched as plainly as when cut with the French officer's ring. The curious will find facsimiles of the names printed in his "Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution."

They were scratched on the window the night of a grand ball given by Lucy Knox, the wife of the General. The ball was opened by Washington himself. His partner was Mrs. Golden, one of the three belles whose names were on the pane. The house is interesting in itself aside from its historical associations. In one room there is a secret treasure vault dug under the floor, with a carefully concealed trap door opening down into it. The hole is large enough for several men to hide in and is supposed to have been made during Revolutionary times to hide the valuables of the house or on a pinch to conceal an American or a British soldier.

In another room there are two small closets made in the chimney above the fireplace and concealed by panels in every way like the others with which the wall above the fireplace is faced, except that they have no keyholes and hinges. In former times they were supposed to have been locked and opened by the pressure of secret springs. They must have looked exactly like the other panels and no one would have dreamed of looking for secret recesses behind them. Valuable papers and jewels might have been hidden in them in time of need.

Another interesting feature of the old house is found in the large hall that runs directly through the middle of the main building. A thick stone partition, with narrow openings passing through it, divides this hall midway into two parts, and from the front part a stairway leads to the upper rooms of the house. At the first landing on these stairs, where they make a turn, is a large square hole cut through the thick wall of the partition and looking very much like the embrasure of a fort, and probably this is what it was intended for, an embrasure through which the Americans could fire on the British or other enemies should they attack the house and break in the door at either end of the hall. At least it would answer for a purpose, and there seems to be no need of it for either light or ventilation.

Running from the second floor to the garden in the rear is a winding stairway, possibly because the stairs go almost straight up, and yet one can walk up them quite easily without the aid of the hands. The steps are made in the form of right angled triangles so placed on alternate sides of the steep, narrow, booke as to make it possible for one to walk up the stairs by swinging the feet alternately upward from the step below to the step above on the opposite side, a very convenient arrangement where the stairs must occupy little space, but it is almost like a ladder.

The Gen. Knox Headquarters House, like all old houses, has its legends, weird stories and tales of the past. One of the legends is a story of a young girl who was said to have disappeared one dark night, never again to be seen alive, and this story is said to have been caused by her uneasy spirit. There is also a legend of a secret passage running from the old house to Murderer's creek, a quarter of a mile away, and of a buried treasure, but the secret tunnel appears hardly probable on account of the rocky nature of the ground through which it would have had to be dug and the buried treasure has never yet been found.

New Bird Land in Georgia.

Thomson's correspondence Macon Telegraph.

Many people in this section are of the opinion that the birds of the game are the numerous hunters who are the cause of the great invasion of worms, bugs, grasshoppers, etc., of which the farmers are complaining so much this year, and there is a discussion in regard to getting a bill passed to close the season for ten years.

It is thought that this closed season would be a great benefit to the birds, and would also be a great benefit to the crops. It is thought that this closed season would be a great benefit to the birds, and would also be a great benefit to the crops.

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BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS. THE DOUBLE S. & H. Green Trading Stamps on cash purchases FREE before 12. Premium Parlor, Fourth Floor. We close during July and August at 5 except Saturday, then at 12.

Our Summer Mail Order Service follows Vacationists Everywhere—Write, or Phone 6300 Main.

It doesn't matter which way the "Tariff Cat" may jump, we will begin Monday. Factory Clearance Sales of Furniture, Floor Coverings, and Every Article That Summer Weather Needs, at Prices So Low It Will Pay to Draw Money from the Bank to Lay in a Stock Now.